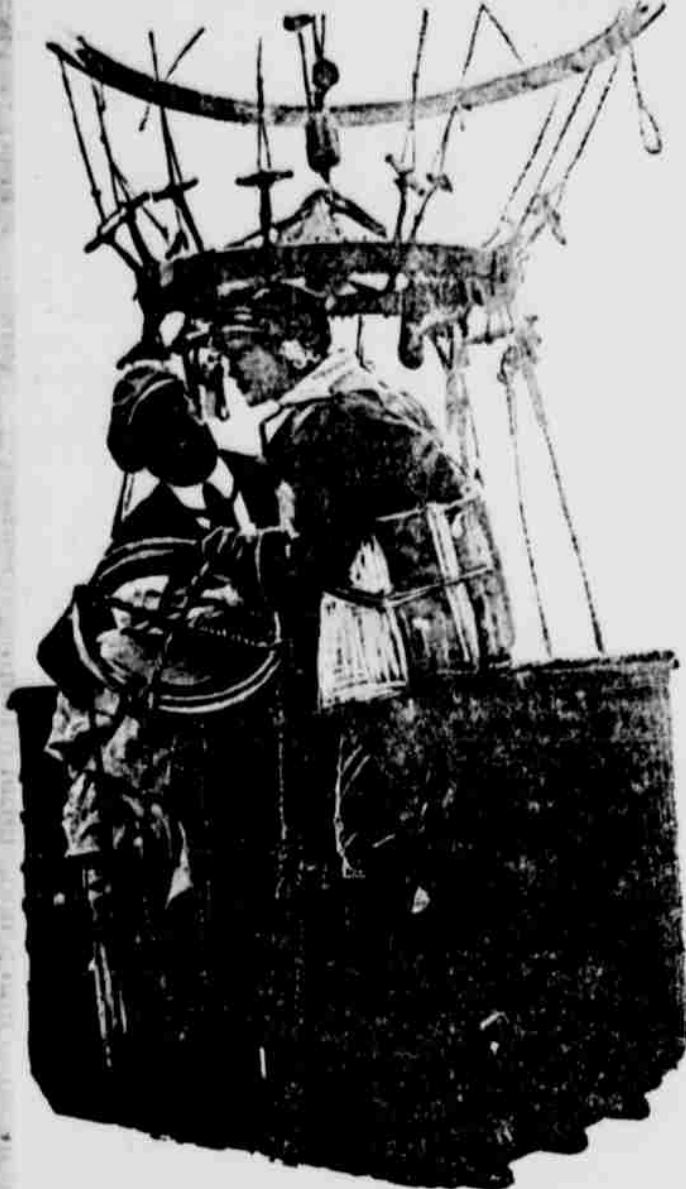


# The Shielding Shadow

Can You Write a Movie? Read This Thriller and Learn How to Write One in Scenario Form



## CONDENSED SCENARIO.

BY GEORGE BRACKETT SEITZ.

SEVENTH EPISODE—THE AWAKENING.

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Scenario of Publication, CHAPTERS.

To win his wife, Leontine, Sebastian Navarre forged a paper and sent her sweetheart, Jerry, to prison for life. Jerry escaped to an island in the South Atlantic and there discovered the measure of a shipwrecked seaman. He was dragged into the sea by an octopus and lost. Leontine, to save her father, married Sebastian with the promise that, when he was her love, she would be his wife "in name only." Two mysterious hands and eyes have appeared and continually have been watching Sebastian. A strange named Ravengar came into Leontine's life and protects her from danger.

**Part I.**

**SUB-TITLE—**Leontine has become interested in her friend Bob Hamilton's entry in the international balloon race.

**Scene 1—**Aviation grounds near balloon shed. Balloon in picture. Open diaphragm on foreground of Leontine, two or three friends and Bob Hamilton. They are examining balloon basket. Sebastian, Leontine's husband, joins the party.

**SUB-TITLE—**One-Lamp Louie, who has lost his memory, is the accomplice of Sebastian in the forgery which sent Leontine's sweetheart to prison and to his death.

**Scene 2—**Location near back of balloon shed. Open diaphragm on close foreground of Louie, flashily dressed. Bill Avery, Hamilton's assistant, sees Louie and comes up to him. He holds out his hand and speaks.

**SPOKEN TITLE—**Louie, don't you know me? I am your old pal, Bill Avery. We spent three years together in jail.

Continuing previous foreground. Louie turns on his heel and exits, leaving Avery gazing after him.

**SUB-TITLE—**Bianca, Queen of the Underworld, has captured the mysterious stranger, Ravengar, and holds him a prisoner in her hidden house.

**Scene 3—**Ravengar's cellar prison. Open diaphragm on close foreground

of Ravengar. He is lying upon bench smoking. Full set—The door opens and Bianca comes in. Locks door and moves over to Ravengar. She makes love to him, but he smiles and gently rejects her advances. She is furious. Rises, hesitates and exits.

**SUB-TITLE—**Bianca has received a spirit message telling her that if she could win Ravengar's regard, she must secure from Sebastian a confession of the forgery. To win this confession, Bianca smiles at Leontine's husband.

**Scene 4—**Bianca's boudoir. Bianca comes in. She is filled with rage at Ravengar's coldness. Sebastian enters. She rises to her feet and greets him cordially.

**Scene 5—**Veranda and steps of a roadhouse. Moonlight effect. Show foreground of Leontine, Hamilton and two or three men coming down veranda steps and exiting. Louie at table on the veranda, seeing Leontine, follows after her with a look of puzzled recognition. Louie wears evening clothes. Romanoff, one of Bianca's followers, also on veranda, sees Louie display a roll of bills as he pays the waiter and greets him.

**Scene 6—**Automobile entrance of roadhouse. Moonlight effect. Show foreground of Leontine, Hamilton and others. Louie enters picture and gazes in Leontine's direction. Romanoff comes quietly behind Louie. Looks around to see if he is unobserved and strikes Louie down. Sebastian, Hamilton and Leontine, Hamilton and others by automobile. They register that they have heard Louie's cry as he fell and rush toward him. Show foreground of Romanoff bending over Louie and taking wallet from his pocket. Sees Leontine and the others coming. Dives into bushes.

Full set—Leontine, Hamilton and others run up to Louie.

**SUB-TITLE—**Leontine recognizes Louie as a man who snatched a valued confession from her hands.

Continuing scene—Leontine registers that she recognizes Louie. Thinks. Then tells the others she knows the man and bids them take him to her automobile. Hamilton and her friends pick up Louie and carry him off.

**Scene 7—**Leontine's study. Leontine and her friends bring in Louie. Lay him on couch. Leontine's friends indicate they must go. Enter party with exception of maid servant, who is left with Louie, exits.

**Scene 8—**Study. Sebastian comes in. Discovers maid and Louie and goes over to couch. Registers that he recognizes Louie. Sends the maid away and turns to Louie.

**SUB-TITLE—**The highwayman's blow restores the former's stricken memory.

Continuing scene—Louie raises himself on elbow. Stares at Sebastian, recognizes him.

**Scene 9—**Library. Leontine approaches study door. Hears voices and stops, listening.

**Scene 10—**Study. Louie stares at Sebastian in wonder and then speaks.

**SPOKEN TITLE—**I know you. You are Sebastian Navarre. I did a forgery for you. I sent Jerry Carson to prison for life.

Continuing scene. Full set—Leontine enters study and stands gazing at the two. Sebastian hesitates. Then speaks.

**SPOKEN TITLE—**"He is crazy. I never saw him before. What did it mean?"

Continuing scene. Full set—Louie rises to his feet and starts to exit. Leontine tries to stop him. He pushes her aside and exits. Sebastian steps toward Leontine as though to explain further. She gazes at him in silence for a moment, then exits into library. Sebastian sinks into chair.

Dissolve into (—) on one side of him (double exposure) the figure of Justice with scales and sword. Justice slowly raises her sword. Sebastian shrinks back. Dissolve into (—) on other side of Sebastian a picture of Bianca. She smiles alluringly and holds out her hands to him. Both visions vanish.

Sebastian exits out of foreground toward library door.

**Scene 11—**Leontine's library. Sebastian enters and approaches Leontine. Stops before her. Hesitates, then speaks.

**SPOKEN TITLE—**"It is quite plain that we are mistaken. If I can arrange it, will you grant me a divorce?"

Show foreground of the two. Sebastian finishes speaking out above. Leontine gazes at him.

**SPOKEN TITLE—**"When I have forced from you a confession of the crime you have done and brought justice onto your head."

**Part II.**

**SUB-TITLE—**Fearful of discovery, Louie, who now remembers Avery, persuades the latter to take Hamilton's place in the balloon race, and Louie tells Avery that he will see to it Hamilton is taken suddenly ill. Leontine has already promised to accompany Hamilton and Louie believes that she will make the trip only way.

He plans to put a flare bomb in the rigging that will set the balloon afire, and bribe Avery to desert her, escaping in a parachute.

**Scene 12—**Library. Sebastian, Leontine and Hamilton coming in from dining room. Butler passes coffee cups to the others. Sebastian turns to Hamilton and speaks.

**SPOKEN TITLE—**"How would you like to try an unusual cordial? It was sent to me from Cyprus."

Hamilton nods his willingness. Butler pours out two glasses of it, giving one to Sebastian and the other to Hamilton. Hamilton lifts glass and drinks to Leontine's health. Sebastian empties his into vase nearby. The drugged cordial begins to take effect on Hamilton, who rises to his feet, turns toward door, staggers and falls. Leontine and Sebastian run to him. General excitement.

**SUB-TITLE—**Hamilton's sudden illness confuses him in bed, but at his urgent request Leontine decides to make the flight with his assistant.

**Scene 13—**Balloon grounds. Leontine, Sebastian and a number of Leontine's friends gather about the balloon. Bill Avery comes up to balloon and gets in.

**Scene 14—**Rear of balloon basket. Show foreground of Louie in rear of balloon basket. He slips a square, black, cigarette box affair into a convenient hiding place.

**Scene 15—**Balloon grounds. Show close foreground of party. Leontine waves a gay farewell as Ravengar (disguised as Avery) finishes coasting off ropes and balloon rises out of the foreground.

**SUB-TITLE—**Three hours later.

**Scene 16—**Basket of balloon. Show close foreground of bomb in its hiding place. A small jet of smoke starts to spurt out from the bomb. Show close foreground of Leontine and Ravengar. Leontine discovers smoke. Cries out and points to it. Ravengar turns. Notes smoke and runs toward it. As he reaches it there is a flash of smoke and flame. Ravengar seizes small fire extinguisher and endeavors to put out flame. Flame spreads. He gazes down side of balloon basket.

**Scene 17—**Ocean. Show short flash of waves as seen from high spot.

**Scene 18—**Balloon basket. Ravengar grabs parachute and thrusts end of it into Leontine's hand.

**SPOKEN SUB-TITLE—**"Jump. There will be an explosion in a few seconds."

Continuing the scene, Leontine hesitates. Ravengar insists and Leontine climbs to edge of basket. Holding end of parachute, Leontine jumps. Basket is afire. Flames are reaching balloon bag. Ravengar seizes rope and starts to lower himself.

**Scene 19—**Sky. Leontine in parachute passes through.

**Scene 20—**Surface of ocean. Show foreground of Leontine and parachute landing in water. Parachute has a patent float and stays on surface of water, supporting Leontine.

**Scene 21—**Balloon. Show foreground of Ravengar coming down

hand over hand on long rope hanging from balloon basket. Comes to end of rope and hangs there.

**Scene 22—**Far-away view of balloon with Ravengar dangling on end of rope high above the ocean. The balloon explodes and the rope breaks away. Ravengar does long drop into water.

**Scene 23—**Surface of ocean. Show foreground of Ravengar coming to surface and striking out for Leontine, who is sustained by floats in parachute. She calls to Ravengar. He feebly swims to her and is dragged on to parachute float. Faints. Show foreground of Leontine on float

bending over Ravengar. His wig and beard have fallen off. She gazes at them astounded and pulls both off. Ravengar opens his eyes and comes to. Leontine stares at Ravengar. He smiles back. Fade into

**SUB-TITLE—**WHO IS THE SHIELDING SHADOW?

The Eighth Episode of  
The Shielding Shadow  
Will Be Published Monday, Nov. 20



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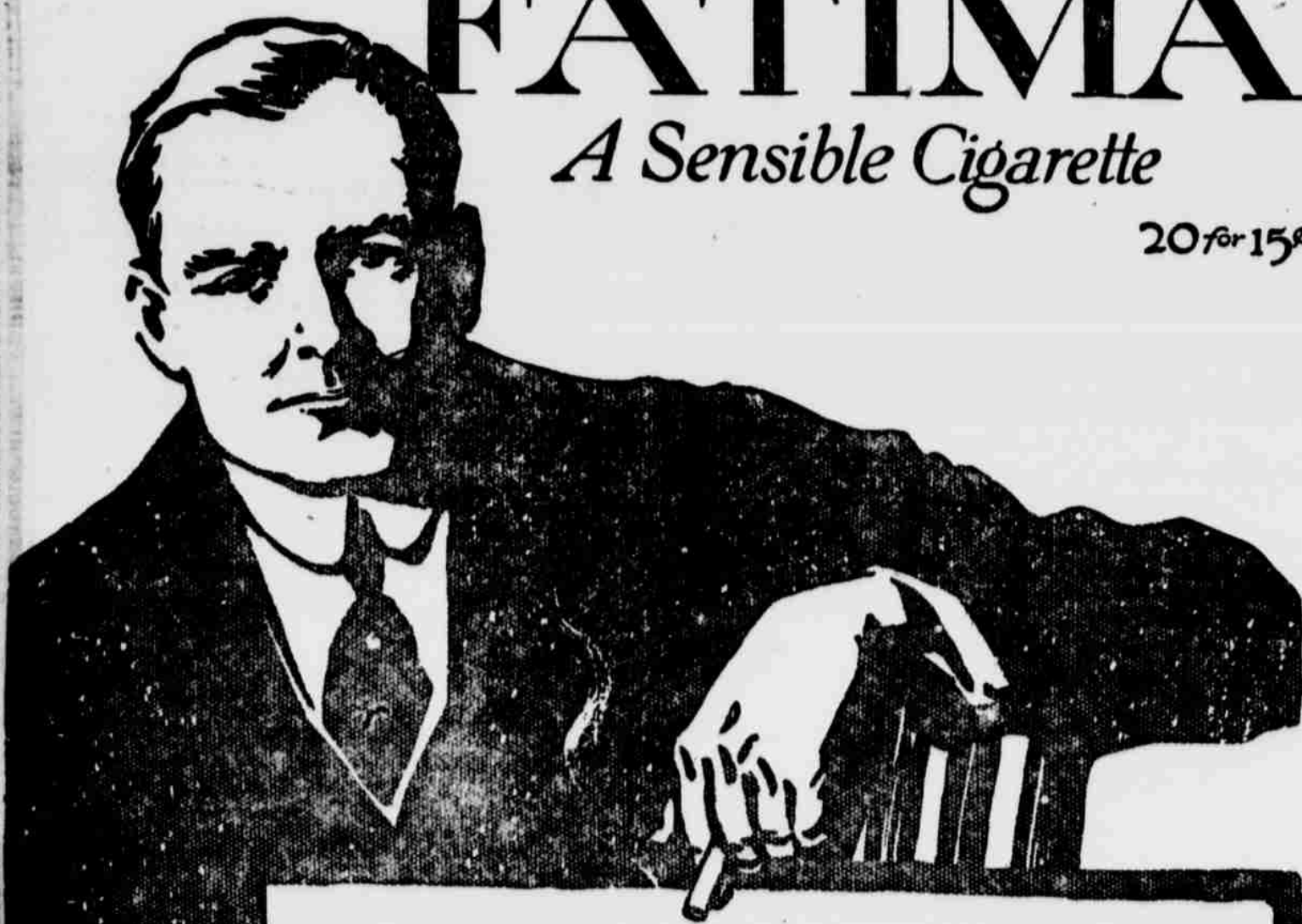
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